Increase in naxal activities in Jharkhand

692. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that naxal activities are increasing in the country particularly in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details of loss of lives and property due to this;

(c) the reasons for these attacks; and

(d) the steps Government is taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) In 2006, there were a total of 1509 incidents and 678 casualties, of which 310 incidents and 124 casualties were in Jharkhand. In 2007, there were a total of 1565 incidents and 696 casualties, of which 482 incidents and 157 casualties were in Jharkhand.

The naxalites have been observed to be targeting certain types of Government buildings and infrastructure pertaining to road and rail transportation and, in some cases, power transmission facilities. Action is being taken continunously by the State Governments to minimize such possibilities and to strengthen related security arrangements.

Law and order being a State subject, dealing with the various aspects/issues related to naxalite activities in a State primarily lies in the domain of the concerned State Government. The Central Government, however, supplements the efforts and resources of the State Governments by a variety of measures that include deployment of Central paramilitary forces which work under the control of the State Government concerned, sanctioning of India Reserve battalions, assistance for strengthening of the State police and Intelligence agencies, reimbursement of security-related expenditure, assistance in training of State police forces, sharing of Intelligence, bringing about inter-State coordination and assistance in development works through a range of scheme of various Ministries.

Implementation of Multi-purpose National Identity Card Pilot Project

†693. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Multi-purpose National Identity Card Pilot Project for the Infrastructural urvey and verification of the status of citizenship in the country is under implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the places where the above card making work has been started at present along with the details of its status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) to (c) A Pilot Project on Multi-purpose National Identity Card (MNIC) has been under implementation since November, 2003 on an experimental basis in selected sub-districts of 12 States and 1 Union Territory namely, Andhra Pradesh, Assam,